(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of imported chemicals and fertilizers would go up after devaluation of the rupee;

(b) if so, to what extent and the details thereof;

(c) whether it would not lead to chain reaction in domestic manufacturer's prices; whether it would not also adversely affect the competitiveness of some of our exports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d) The extent of increase, if any, in the prices of imported chemicals and fertilizers consequent on devaluation of the rupee and its impact on the domestic manufacturer's prices would depend on the tariff and other related factors concerning imports.

Points of Objections to Prasar Bharati Bill

363. SHR CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to implement the Prasar Bharati Act for Doordarshan autonomy;

(b) if not, what are the points of objections; and

(c) if so, by when implementation would be done?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUM. GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) The Government is committed to set up Prasar Bharati and also to introduce competition in the electronic media. However, the possibility of bringing out suitable amendments in the Act particularly in the context of introducing competition in the electronic media cannot be ruled out.

Inclusion of Land Reforms Laws in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution

364. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the State Land Reforms Laws have been incluedd in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution making it easy to dispose of all the litigations against the implementation of Land Reforms Laws; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to enforce new provisions and clear all the litigations pending in the Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Land being a State subject, land reforms laws are enacted by State Governments from time to time. As and when the proposals for their inclusion in the Ninth Schedule are received from the States, these are examined on merit and included in the Ninth Schedule in consultation with the Ministry of Law and Justice. So far 222 land reform laws have been placed in the Ninth Schedule to reduce litigation.

It is the responsibility of the State Governments to take steps to enforce the provisions of their laws. Though inclusion of the laws in the Ninth Schedule does reduce the volume and scope of litigation it does not, however, completely eliminate the element of litigation.

Price Control through Expansion of Public Distribution System

365. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the extension and expansion of public distribution system is a vital factor in controlling the price rise of essential commodities;